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July 3, 2019

The Honorable Jocelyn G. Boyd
Chief Clerk and Administrator
South Carolina Public Service Commission
Synergy Business Park, The Saluda Building
101 Executive Center Drive
Columbia SC 29210

**Re: South Carolina Energy Freedom Act (House Bill 3659) Proceeding Related to S.C.
Code Ann. Section 58-37-40 - Integrated Resource Plans
Lockhart Power Company - Docket No. 2019-227-E**

Dear Ms. Boyd:

I am writing on behalf of Lockhart Power Company (“Lockhart”) to respond to comments filed on June 19, 2019 by the South Carolina Conservation League and the Southern Alliance for Clean Energy (“Conservation Groups”) in the above-referenced dockets.

In their comments, the Conservation Groups argued that the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the “Commission”) should hold a generic proceeding to establish Integrated Resource Planning procedures and guidance reflecting the updated statutory requirements of the South Carolina Energy Freedom Act (Act No. 26 of 2019) (the “Act”).

Lockhart respectfully submits that the Act itself is very detailed regarding what must be included in Integrated Resource Plans (“IRPs”) filed by electrical utilities. *See* S.C. Code Ann. § 58-37-40(B)(1). Furthermore, the Act provides a process for the Commission to review IRPs filed by the utilities, including an opportunity for interested parties to participate in those proceedings. *See* S.C. Code Ann. § 58-37-40(C). Lockhart believes the concerns expressed by the Conservation Groups were explicitly addressed and included in the Act, and that a generic proceeding is not necessary.

Additionally, the procedural schedule proposed by the Conservation Groups would not comport with the law. The Conservation Groups state that a generic IRP proceeding can be completed “in the first half of 2020, such that jurisdictional utilities can file IRPs ... by late 2020.” Lockhart’s IRP is due to be filed not later than June 16, 2020, in compliance with the statutory requirement to file an IRP every three years. *See* S.C. Code Ann. § 58-37-40(A). Completing a

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generic docket in the first half of 2020, as suggested by the Conservation Groups, would not provide sufficient time for Lockhart to incorporate any generic guidelines or procedures into its IRP. Finally, Lockhart notes that prior Commission orders establishing guidelines for IRPs cited by the Conservation Groups apply only to the large electrical utilities and not to Lockhart. For these reasons, to the extent the Commission determines to hold a generic proceeding to address procedures and guidance for the filing of IRPs, Lockhart respectfully requests that it be exempted from any such requirement.

Very truly yours,

Burr & Forman LLP


M. John Bowen, Jr.

MJB:khh

cc: Jeffrey M. Nelson, Esq. (via Email: jnelson@ors.sc.gov)
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